

Knowledge, Attitude for Blood Donation among Patients Visited in PSM Department: An Institutional Based Study

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ABSTRACT

Background: Blood transfusion is an important concern for the society, as it is life saving for patients with bleeding disorders, accidents, surgeries, inherited/ acquired haematological diseases and malignancies. Hence; present study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude for blood donation among patients visiting PSM department.

Materials & Methods: The present study included assessment of knowledge, attitude for blood donation among patients visiting PSM department, Pacific Medical College and Hospital, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India. A total of 100 subjects reporting to the department of PSM were enrolled in the present study. A self-framed questionnaire was given to all the subjects for assessing the knowledge and attitude about blood donation.

Results: 64 percent of the subjects of the present study had positive knowledge about blood donation in the present study, with educated males having more knowledge. However; patients had unfavorable attitude towards blood donation.

Conclusion: Patients reporting to the department of PSM have moderate level of knowledge about blood donation.

Key words: Attitude, Blood Donation, Knowledge.

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Article History:

Received: 20-03-2018, **Revised:** 16-04-2018, **Accepted:** 07-05-2018

Access this article online

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|--|--|
| Website: www.ijmrp.com | Quick Response code  |
| DOI: 10.21276/ijmrp.2018.4.3.052 | |

INTRODUCTION

Blood donation is very crucial in saving lives. In the recent past, health service has been widened and has undergone very swift transformation.¹ Many previous reports have shown that people have insufficient knowledge, diverse attitude and many misconceptions about the blood donation. The donation of blood from young students is preferred because the risk of acquiring the blood transmitted diseases from blood donated by the students is less than other groups.²⁻⁴

Blood transfusion is an important concern for the society, as it is life saving for patients with bleeding disorders, accidents, surgeries, inherited/acquired haematological diseases and malignancies. Voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors are the cornerstone of a safe adequate supply of blood and blood components. The task of recruiting voluntary blood donors remains one of the major challenges for any blood transfusion service.⁵⁻⁸

Hence; present study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude for blood donation among patients visiting PSM department.

MATERIALS & METHODS

The present study was conducted in the department of Community Medicine, Pacific Medical College and Hospital,

Udaipur, Rajasthan (India) and it included assessment of knowledge, attitude for blood donation among patients visiting PSM department.

For carrying out the present study, ethical approval was obtained from the institutional ethical committee. Also written consent was taken from all the patients after explaining in detail the entire research protocol.

A total of 100 subjects reporting to the department of PSM were enrolled in the present study. A self-framed questionnaire was given to all the subjects for assessing the knowledge and attitude about blood donation. All the results were compiled and were analyzed by SPSS software.

RESULTS

In the present study, a total of 100 subjects were enrolled and were analyzed. Mean age of the subjects of the present study was 42.8 years. Among these 100 subjects, 54 were males while the remaining 46 were females. 20 subjects in the present study were illiterate, while 40 subjects were educated upto graduation. 64 percent of the subjects of the present study had positive knowledge about blood donation in the present study, with educated males having more knowledge. However; patients had unfavorable attitude towards blood donation.

Table 1: Factors associated with knowledge of subjects towards blood donation

| Parameter | | Knowledge (Number of subjects) | | Total |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----|-------|
| | | Yes | No | |
| Age group (years) | Less than 20 | 11 | 9 | 20 |
| | 20 to 40 | 18 | 12 | 30 |
| | More than 40 | 35 | 15 | 50 |
| Gender | Male | 40 | 14 | 54 |
| | Female | 24 | 22 | 46 |
| Education status | Illiterate | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| | Educated below graduation | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| | Graduate | 30 | 10 | 40 |
| | Postgraduate | 14 | 6 | 20 |

Graph 1: Factors associated with knowledge of subjects towards blood donation

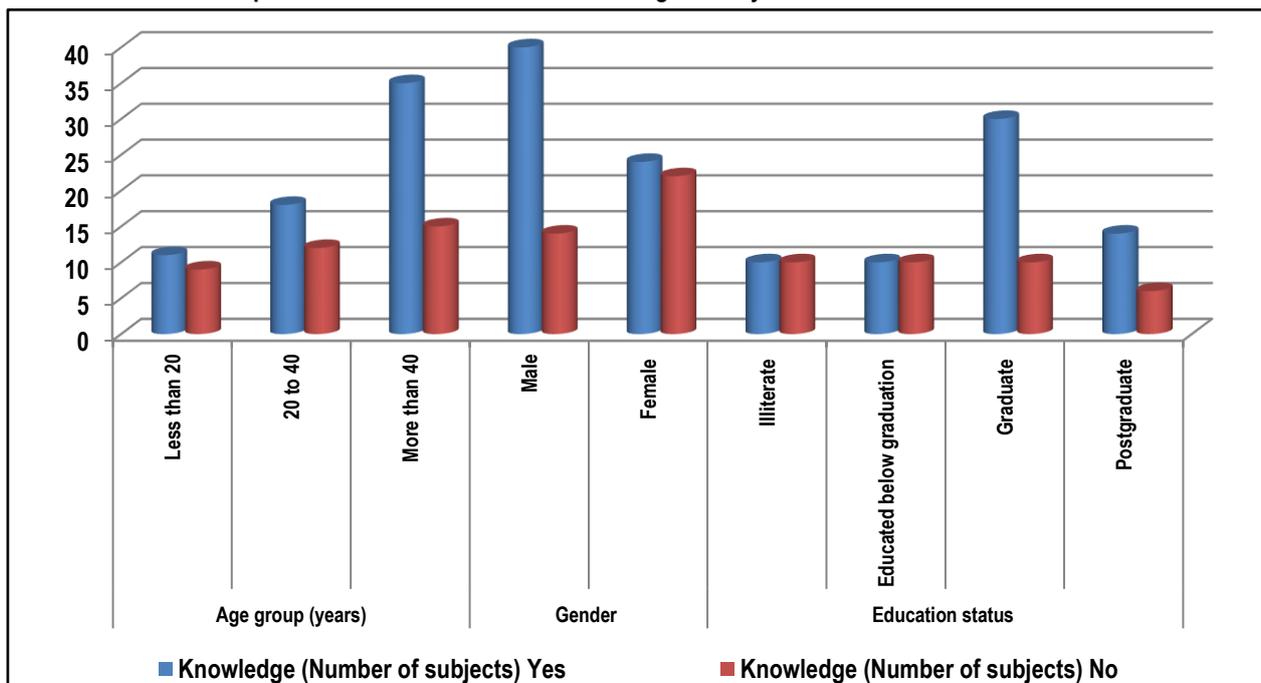


Table 2: Factors associated with Attitude of subjects towards blood donation

| Parameter | | Attitude (Number of subjects) | | Total |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| | | Favorable | Unfavorable | |
| Age group (years) | Less than 20 | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| | 20 to 40 | 15 | 15 | 30 |
| | More than 40 | 30 | 20 | 50 |
| Gender | Male | 38 | 16 | 54 |
| | Female | 22 | 24 | 46 |
| Education status | Illiterate | 8 | 12 | 20 |
| | Educated below graduation | 8 | 12 | 20 |
| | Graduate | 25 | 15 | 40 |
| | Postgraduate | 10 | 10 | 20 |

DISCUSSION

In the present study, 64 percent of the subjects of the present study had positive knowledge about blood donation in the present study, with educated males having more knowledge. However; patients had unfavorable attitude towards blood donation. Giri PA

et al assessed the knowledge and attitude about blood donation among undergraduate medical science university students. A cross-sectional study was conducted among 400 final year undergraduate students from medical, dental, nursing, and physiotherapy disciplines in a Pravara institute of Medical

Sciences University campus of central India during the period of May- August 2011. Data was analyzed in the form of percentage and proportions and Chi-square test. The overall knowledge on blood donation was good; however, majority (52.5%) of students never donated blood. Knowledge level was found highest among medical students (53.1%) and lowest among physiotherapy students (20.7%). Non-consideration, forgetfulness, and lack of time were the major reasons for not donating blood. A significant association was observed between different streams of students and levels of knowledge and attitude about blood donation. This study elicited the importance of adopting effective measures in our campus to motivate about voluntary blood donation among students.⁹

Hosain GM et al assessed their knowledge and attitudinal variables towards voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation. Two hundred students were selected to participate in this study and were interviewed face to face on various aspects of blood donation using a structured questionnaire. Eighty two per cent of the participants showed a positive attitude towards blood donation, however, only 16 per cent of the respondents in this study had actually ever donated blood voluntarily. Among the non-donor respondents, physical harm and fear were found to be the common reasons for not donating blood. The results also showed that a high number of respondents (93%) had a negative attitude towards paid blood donation. They suggested that appropriate motivational campaign should be launched immediately among this young section of the population to convert this favourable "attitude" towards blood donation into a regular "practice" in order to increase the voluntary blood donation in Bangladesh.¹⁰

SU et al assessed the level of the knowledge, attitude and practice of blood donation among voluntary blood donors. A structured questionnaire was given to 530 voluntary blood donors to assess their knowledge, attitude and practice with respect to blood donations. The statistical analyses were done by using the SPSS software. Among the 530 donors, 436 (93%) were males and 36 (7%) were female donors. 273 (51.2%) donors knew about the interval of the donation and 421 (79.4%) donors knew about the age limit for the donation. 305 (57%) donors felt that creating an opportunity for the donation was an important factor for motivating the blood donation and 292 (55%) donors felt that the fear of pain was the main reason for the hesitation of the donors in coming forward to donate blood. A majority of the donors were willing to be regular donors.¹¹

CONCLUSION

Under the light of above obtained results, it can be concluded that patients reporting to the department of PSM have moderate level of knowledge about blood donation. Therefore, awareness programs should be intimated for educating general population about blood donation.

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Source of Support: Nil. **Conflict of Interest:** None Declared.

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Cite this article as: Ganesh G. Ramteke. Knowledge, Attitude for Blood Donation among Patients Visited in PSM Department: An Institutional Based Study. *Int J Med Res Prof.* 2018 May; 4(3):247-49. DOI:10.21276/ijmrp.2018.4.3.052